

## PRESSURE PUT ON EMPLOYEES

Congressmen Friendly to Labor Ask Postponement of Strike

## CAPRICIOUS PUBLIC

Warned of Shifting Favor—Trainmen Would Be Hurt in the End By a Tieup.

Washington, Aug. 31—There must not, and there will not, be a strike starting Monday!

This in substance was the first laid down today to the four brotherhood leaders by the authorities in the National Capital who have shown themselves most friendly and powerful to secure for the railroad employees all they possibly can get at this time in hours and wages.

President Wilson called them to the White House and told them this, pointing out to them that if legislation has not actually been put through before Saturday night Congress will have gone far enough on the proposed legislation to guarantee a satisfactory fulfillment of what they insist upon. On this basis he asked, as a patriotic duty, that the strike order be rescinded.

Washington, Aug. 31—Determined efforts are being made by members of Congress sympathetic with labor's cause to bring about a postponement of the strike order for September 4 until Congress has been given an opportunity to reach some definite conclusion on the legislation proposed by President Wilson in his message.

It became known yesterday that the four brotherhood leaders have been warned that if a strike is forced while the legislation is pending in Congress the labor unions will forfeit the sympathy of the American people, and that means they will lose their fight.

The brotherhood leaders were told in plain words that to call a strike in the face of President Wilson's efforts to secure legislation to adjust the differences would be tantamount to "contempt of Congress and of the President."

Washington, Aug. 31—The Southern railroad today issued the following statement to the traveling public:

"Because of formal notice from train and yard service organizations of their intention to discontinue service at 7 a. m. Monday September 4, we wish the traveling public to know that we may be compelled on very short notice to discontinue some of our passenger trains. Every effort will be made to obviate this, but if it is forced we ask that patience be indulged by the public in such temporary inconvenience.

With freight embargo orders piling up thick and fast on all railroads of the country, and with embargo orders on perishable freight already issued on practically every line entering Washington, effective by midnight Saturday, the Capital faces the cutting off of from 60 to 75 per cent of its food supply by Sunday.

Added to the railroad companies' embargoes are those of steamship companies, which are placing the ban on all consignments to be transported part way by railroads to their ultimate destinations.

Such embargoes were issued today by the Old Dominion Steamship Company plying between Norfolk and New York City, which is a link between Washington and the North; and the Merchants and Miners' Steamship Company, which also handles large quantities of freight consigned to Washington.

This morning all the division superintendents of transportation of the Southern railroad were called to Washington to confer with G. W. Taylor, the Southern's general superintendent of transportation.

## COMPANIES PLAN FOR BIG FIGHT

Executives Face Situation in a Belligerent Spirit

## DEFIANCE IS ISSUED

Many Trainmen Are Expected to Remain at Their Posts Despite the Strike Orders

Chicago, Aug. 31—Throughout the entire country the railroads, great and small, are gathering their forces to oppose the strike set for next Monday.

The undercurrent of feeling reported at Washington that the catastrophe would yet be averted is not reflected here among railroad men. A summary of the situation made by E. P. Ripley, president of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe, who was a member of the committee which conferred with President Wilson, as spokesman for railroad presidents who returned yesterday from the conferences at the national capital, intensified the pessimism felt here.

Mr. Ripley asserted that the railroads can now see no hope of a settlement before Labor Day, and are making every preparation for eventualities.

Practically every important railroad in the country gave notice of embargoes, or was preparing to give them. They effect perishable freight and live stock, which at present constitute about one-third the freight traffic on most Western roads, and passengers. Agents everywhere were instructed to warn passengers of probable delays, and not to accept any perishable freight which could not normally be delivered before September 4. In some cases the date was set for Saturday, September 2, or Sunday, September 3.

The railroad officials who came back to Chicago were energetic and belligerent.

Mr. Ripley's face had fight written all over it as he worked his broad shoulders through the crowd at the station and the expression translated itself into words in his subsequent statements.

He gave three statements. The first statement was issued formally as the expression of the party which returned from Washington, the second was addressed to employees of the Santa Fe and warned those who might obey the strike order that they would lose all rights of seniority and of benefits from insurance and pension funds. The third was Mr. Ripley's plan for meeting the strike and an analysis of the railroads' side of the controversy.

The three constituted an artillery blast of defiance to the brotherhoods, to whose "unreasonable arrogance" he attributed the situation.

There was some difference of opinion, he said, among the officials when they first arrived at Washington as to what course to pursue, but they became absolutely unanimous when requested to abandon arbitration. They were for it, he said.

On the important subject of what the roads purpose to do, he said that attempts would be made to keep at least one passenger train on each run and that preference would next be given perishable freight.

He expressed the opinion that the public would be surprised at the number of men who would remain loyal to their employers.

In the event of the railroad employees going out on a strike Monday, it is declared the entire railroad system entering Washington will not be tied up.

For some time it is learned the railroads have been laying plans "for just such an emergency," a railroad official states. This official says that not all of the engineers or firemen will strike, as he had been told by

## Alexandria City News Condensed

A cottage prayer meeting will be held tonight at 1013 Cameron street. H. E. Webb, sr., will conduct the services.

Miss Bessie A. Marks has returned from a delightful visit to Berryville. Miss Marks has now as her guest Miss Ada Levi of Clarke county.

Mrs. Raymond Blumenfeld, her daughter Miss Rose Blumenfeld and Mr. Aaron Katz are spending a few days at Colonial Beach.

Mount Vernon Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, will elect officers for the ensuing year at their annual meeting tomorrow night in the Masonic Temple.

Mr. and Mrs. James B. Hunter, accompanied by their niece, Miss Jane Saunders, have returned from a ten day's motor trip to Philadelphia and Ocean City, Md.

Maury W. Gaines has gone on a trip to Chicago and New York. Later on Mr. Gaines will visit Atlantic City where he will be joined by his daughter Miss Audrey Gaines and his son John Marshall Gaines.

Martha Washington Chapter, No. 42, Order of the Eastern Star, went on their annual excursion to Marshall Hall today, taking a large crowd of friends with them. This evening it is expected that many more will go down.

"God's Seal, and Who is it that Will Receive the Mark of the Beast?" will be the subject at the gospel tent on north Washington street tonight. Elder Stewart Kime, chaplain of the Washington Sanitarium, will preach, and all are cordially invited to attend.

Considerable commotion was caused last night at the Cameron street wharf when a steer which was being unloaded from the steamer Three Rivers, of Baltimore, fell overboard. After some delay the animal was taken from the water and returned to the wharf.

Some of them they intended to "stick by the company."

"Some of the engineers and firemen have been in the service of the company for many years, and they would be foolish to take such a step," he said. "I know of one engineer who has only several months more to run an engine when he can be retired at the age of sixty-five years and live comfortably the rest of his life. Don't you think it would be foolish for him to go out on a strike at this time?"

The Pennsylvania railroad, it is reported, has been at work systematically to meet the situation. For some time the company has been obtaining the signatures of its unorganized force to help in such an emergency, it was declared. This force has been instructed in the operation of trains and it is asserted a well developed army of engineers, firemen, conductors and other trainmen has been assembled. Of the engineers and firemen, it is stated, some have had experience in their line, while others have been in the employ of the company for so long they have acquired a working knowledge of the operation of the trains.

As to the operation of a railroad train from Washington, it was declared by an official today that he could place a competent engineer and fireman on an engine at the Union station, secure a ticket clerk out of the office and run the train through to Philadelphia or New York. "All that would be necessary," he said, "aside from the engineer and firemen, would be to have a clerk who understood the tickets."

It was stated by officials of the Baltimore and Ohio and Southern railroads that systems are being worked out whereby the trains can be operated in the event of a strike by the regular employees.

Degree work will be taken up at the called meeting of Andrew Jackson Lodge of Masons tonight at 7:30 o'clock in the Masonic Temple.

Mrs. Harry Beverley has returned to her home in this city after a visit to her brother Mr. T. Marshall Jones, jr., in Baltimore.

"The Masked Rider," to be shown at The Richmond tonight, is expected to be one of the best films that has been shown this summer. It is a five-reel Metro picture. Besides this picture there will be the Pathe Weekly. A big story of the underworld is depicted on the screen at The Surprise tonight, under the name of "The Overcoat."

For the second time this season the Alexandria Elks are taking with them a huge party of friends to Colonial Beach to spend the day. Preparations have been under way for the outing ever since the first of this summer, which was the annual excursion of the lodge and was a big success. It is expected that the one today will be just as large.

Captain and Mrs. Herbert Young have taken charge of the local Salvation Army, coming here from Baltimore. Md. Captain Young has had a good many years' experience in the work not only in this country but in England and Canada as well. They will appreciate the continued co-operation of the people of Alexandria and any help that may be rendered them will be gratefully accepted.

Nothing has been heard to date by Mrs. Harry L. Litchford, of this city, from her sixteen-year-old daughter, Marguerite, who has been missing since August 21, and who, it is reported, eloped with Charles H. Baum, of Baltimore, on a motorcycle. This report has been substantiated and controverted, alternately, until it is not known just what deduction can be drawn. Certain it is, however, that she is missing and that she was seen riding with Baum. Police of Baltimore, Washington, Hagerstown, and this city are on the lookout for clues leading to her apprehension.

## CYCLIST KILLS A WOMAN

Tosses Mother and Daughter Against Train He is Dodging

Harrisburg, Aug. 31—Attempting to avoid being run down by a Philadelphia and Reading train at a grade crossing near East Middletown station yesterday morning, Uriah Schrum of Middletown, ran into Mrs. Sara Hoerner, aged 77, and her daughter, Mrs. Elizabeth Zorger, aged 59, instantly killing Mrs. Hoerner and seriously injuring her daughter.

Both women were waiting to board the approaching train, and the motorcycle hurled them against the trucks of the engine. Schrum drove into Middletown and surrendered to Chief of Police Charles Houser.

The administration shipping bill, carrying \$50,000,000, was passed in the House yesterday without a roll call. The retaliatory measure against the British blacklist, incorporated by the Senate, was left in the bill.

## Death Notice.

Rev. Alexander Truett died this morning at 10:40 at his late residence, 403 Wolfe street. The funeral will be held Monday at 2 o'clock p. m. at the Alfred street church. His remains will lie in state from 9 o'clock until 1 p. m., on Monday.

## FISH FISH FISH

Today and tomorrow, blue fish, stake halibut, sea bass, salt water crayfish, salt water crockers, butter fish, trout, crab meat and large clams, 15c dozen. Sanitary Fish Market, Stall No. 2, City Market. Phone No. 735.

Thirty-seven Dodge cars have been sold by the Fletcher-Demaine Company, agents in Alexandria for Dodge and Hudson motor cars, during the year ending this month. The company has 52 cars already contracted for the ensuing year.

The annual Marshall Hall tournament and tilting took place yesterday, with huge crowds from this city in attendance. Several Alexandria knights participated in the tilting. It is said that this year's event eclipsed all others in every way. The MacAlester made two trips last night, returning from the last trip about 12:30 o'clock this morning.

Following are examinations announced by the United States Civil Service Commission: commanding a salary of \$5 to \$6 per day, assistant material engineer, September 5; explosives, chemist, with salary of \$3,000 per annum, in ordnance department at large, in the Frankfort arsenal at Philadelphia, September 12; The examination for forest assistant, advertised for September 12, has been indefinitely postponed.

Messrs Stewart King and Louis C. Barley, jr., left today to enter the Virginia Military Institute, at Lexington, where the former will be enrolled as a second year cadet, and the latter as a cadet in the freshman class. James K. Reid, of this city, who has been studying for the past several weeks at the Rockbridge Allen Preparatory School near Lexington, is also expected to enter tomorrow, the opening day of the session.

Superintendent of Schools William H. Sweeney has announced the dates of the entrance examinations to the public schools of the city. For entrance to the different classes in the Alexandria High School, examinations will be given at the high school building, September 7, in mathematics and history, and on September 8, in Latin, English, and Science. At the Lee School for entrance to the grammar grades, examinations will be held September 7, in arithmetic and history, and on September 8, in English and Geography. Examinations will begin on these dates at 9 a. m.

## GERMAN BLOWS FEEBLE

Half-Hearted Assaults Near Guillemont, on the Somme Battle Line

London, Aug. 31—The Germans made two attempts Tuesday night to advance in the vicinity of Guillemont, on the Somme front, but were beaten back, the War Office announces.

Paris, Aug. 31—The French launched another attack on the Verdun front east of Fleury Tuesday night and made further progress, the War Office announces.

Berlin, Aug. 31—German troops in the region of the Somme River repulsed strong British attacks along a line from Ovillers to Pozieres and between Guillemont and Maurepas Tuesday night, says the official statement issued today. British detachments which penetrated the German positions at points north of Ovillers and Pozieres were defeated in hand to hand fighting.

Atlanta, Ga., Aug. 31—Movement of perishable freight will stop at midnight Saturday on virtually all railroads throughout the South, in anticipation of the general strike called for Monday.

Most of the Southern roads issued embargoes yesterday directing that no shipments which would deteriorate if delayed en route had been accepted for destinations that would not be reached before Sunday. In some cases the ban was extended to include explosives, and some roads made the embargo immediately effective. The several lines which had not issued embargo orders to night were preparing to do so today.

Despite these steps, road officials generally continued to insist that a strike would not seriously cripple traffic over the South. One or two companies announced that unusual inducements would be held out to employees remaining loyal, and there were many claims that if the strike really occurred, the brotherhoods would find their ranks badly depleted. At Norfolk and Western headquarters it was declared fully 40 per cent of

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Go to Marshall Hall. Go to Marshall Hall with Martha Washington Chapter No. 42, Order of Eastern Star, Thursday, Aug. 31. Tickets for adults 25 cents, children 15 cents. Three boat trips. Boats will leave from wharf at foot of Prince street. 201-2t.

Masonic Notice.

There will be a called communication of Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 120, A. F. and A. M., in Masonic Temple, Thursday evening August 31, at 7:30 o'clock, for work. M. M. Degree. By order of W. M. JAMES E. ALEXANDER, Sect'y. 202-2t.

## PREPARATIONS IN THE SOUTH

R., F. and P. R. R. Cuts Freight and Passenger Service

## PREPARES FOR ISSUE

Roads Place Embargoes on Perishable Freight—Much Trouble Anticipated

Richmond, Aug. 31.—[With the declaration by the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad of an embargo against certain classes of perishable freight, effective at once, and the curtailment of passenger service after Sunday night, the railroad situation in Richmond yesterday, as a result of the threatened strike of 400,000 employees throughout the country, reached an acute stage.

The Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad announced that no live stock or perishable freight that would reach destination later than Monday morning at 7 o'clock, making connections with the Baltimore and Ohio Railway, would be accepted. Until further notice, other freight will be accepted, subject to delay in transit or delivery at destination except that gasoline, explosives or inflammable oils will not be received for transportation by these connections.

For transportation via the Pennsylvania Railroad and its connections the company stated that no explosives or inflammable goods would be received today, the order having been placed in effect late yesterday. Perishable freight, including live stock, dressed meat, poultry, fresh fruits and vegetables, will not be accepted after tomorrow, and no freight of any description will be accepted by the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad after Friday. All shipments accepted in the meantime under the foregoing conditions will be subject to delay, loss and damage resulting from the threatened strike.

The road's passenger service will also be affected. On and after Monday morning at 7 o'clock the through passenger service will be materially curtailed, necessitating changes of cars at Washington. No tickets will be sold and no baggage checked to points beyond Washington after train No. 80, leaving Richmond at 8:20 o'clock Sunday night. General Traffic Manager Warren P. Taylor, announced that the public would be fully advised of any curtailment in the service between Richmond and Washington and beyond, either north or southbound, as conditions arise.

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## ROUMANIANS TAKE 9 TOWNS

New Entry Into Alliance Drives on 375-Mile Front

## PRESS INTO HUNGARY

Invasers Cross Frontier at Several Points and Take 741 Prisoners—Austrians Retreat

Rome, Aug. 31—Nine Hungarian towns and villages, including four with populations of more than 8,000 and Kronstadt, the most important commercial city of Transylvania, have been captured by the Roumanians in the first three days of a sweeping invasion through the Transylvania Alps.

A semi-official statement issued at Vienna today admits that the Roumanians are attacking with extraordinary vigor on a 375-mile front. The pressure is strongest at the Hungarian town of Orsova, near the Serbian frontier, where Roumanian artillery has ceaselessly bombarded the Hungarian positions since the declaration of war.

Bucharest, Aug. 31—Roumanian troops have made progress in their crossing of the Austro-Hungarian frontier and have reached several points, including a village east of Kronstadt, says an official statement given out by the Roumanian War Office today. More than 741 prisoners already have been taken.

Bucharest was bombarded Monday night by a Zeppelin and an aeroplane. London, Aug. 31—Turkey has declared war on Roumania, says a Reuter dispatch from Constantinople. Dispatches from Athens give a report from Saloniki that Roumania has decided to present an ultimatum to Bulgaria demanding the evacuation of Serbian territory.

A dispatch from Bucharest says the Roumanians, operating in conjunction with Russians, have captured the principal passes of the Carpathians. For 12 hours, the dispatch says, the Roumanians have marched uninterrupted on Hungarian territory, meeting only weak resistance.

Hungarian war correspondents report that the Roumanians have begun a bombardment of the Danube towns of Rustchuk, Bulgaria, and Orsovo Hungary.

Berlin, Aug. 31—The abandonment of part of Transylvania to the Roumanians is forecast in dispatches the Austrian Army Headquarters.

The correspondents intimate that the Central Powers will not attempt to defend the entire border, owing to its crookedness and the large number of troops required for the adequate protection of a front half as long as the Russian battle line. It will be advisable, the dispatches say, to shorten the front by abandonment of certain parts of Transylvania.

Vienna, Aug. 31—The Austrian official communication issued yesterday admits that except northeast of Orsova, on the Danube, near the Iron Gates, where repeated Roumanian attacks were repulsed, the Austro-Hungarian troops have been withdrawn step by step from the frontier.

London, Aug. 31—The British press representative at Saloniki, Ward Price, says a report that King Constantine of Greece has fled to Larissa, in Thessaly, to take refuge, with a guard of 300 uhlands. He adds:

"Another report is that the allies have already landed a strong force at Pidaeus, which has been heavily engaged with her Greek army in battle around the king's country house at Tatoi, where several Greek princes have already fallen."

The sale of lots at Jones' addition to Braddock, which was advertised to be held tomorrow, Friday September 1st, has been postponed. The date upon which the sale will take place will be announced later. Watch the Gazette for the announcement. 203-1t